Agency 495

# **Department of Agriculture**

### **Recommendation Summary**

Dollars in Thousands

Dulars in Thousands	FY 05 FTEs	General Fund State	Other Funds	Total Funds
2003-05 Expenditure Authority	664.6	18,577	76,815	95,392
Supplemental Changes Livestock Nutrient Management Spartina Eradication	.3	78	122	78 122
Subtotal - Supplemental Changes	.3	78	122	200
Total Proposed Budget Difference Percent Change	664.9 .3 0.0%	18,655 78 0.4%	76,937 122 0.2%	95,592 200 0.2%

## **Supplemental Changes**

### **Livestock Nutrient Management**

Legislation enacted in 2003 transferred the state's Livestock Nutrient Management program from the Department of Ecology to the Department of Agriculture. Travel and Attorney General costs, as well as the number of follow-up inspections needed, have been higher than anticipated at the time of the transfer. Funding and staffing are provided to the Livestock Nutrient Management activity for additional legal, travel, and inspection costs.

#### **Spartina Eradication**

Spartina is an aggressive, aquatic weed that has invaded marine estuaries in Washington State. This weed crowds out native species and disrupts commercial shellfish operations. During Fiscal Year 2004, the department, which is the lead agency responsible for eradicating Spartina, began using a higher-cost herbicide that is more effective in killing Spartina, thereby depleting its herbicide-treatment budget. The department's Plant Protection activity will treat 500 solid acres of Spartina during spring 2005, the most effective and efficient time for spraying. (Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account-State)